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MAY 9 2002
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECH CENTER 1600/2900
MAY 14 2002

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5/15/02
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In re Application of:

Bernard Belleau et al.

Examiner: T. McKenzie

Serial No.: 09/760,380

Group Art Unit: 1624

Filed: January 16, 2001

Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING SUBSTITUTED 1,3-OXATHIOLANES
WITH ANTIVIRAL PROPERTIES

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

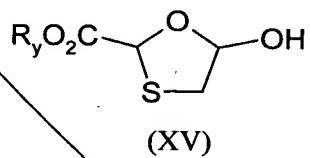
In response to the Office Actions dated November 1, 2001 and of April 9, 2002,
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claim:

--74. A process comprising:

reacting a mercaptoacetaldehyde with a compound of formula $R_yOOCCHO$, wherein R_y is
 C_{1-12} alkyl or C_{6-20} aryl to obtain a compound of formula (XV)



converting the hydroxyl group of the compound of formula (XV) to a leaving group L to
obtain a compound of formula (XVI):

IAF-1/2 C11